

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) A material reduction apparatus ~~as defined in Claim 4~~ comprising:

a rotatably mounted rotor having radial projections;

an anvil adapted to pivot into two or more positions, at least one of the positions being a closed position wherein the anvil is positioned in proximal relation to the projections of the rotor;

a conveying mechanism for conveying materials to be reduced into the rotating rotor and projections, and to be carried by said projections for impacting said anvil to reduce in size components of said materials;

a screen also adapted to pivot into two or more positions, at least one of the positions being a closed position wherein the screen is positioned in proximal relation to said projections of the rotor for engaging said components to further reduce the size of the components and to provide passage of said further reduced components through screen openings in said screen and out of the path of the projections for collection and conveyance away from said apparatus;

said anvil and screen mounted to have common pivotal movement away from said rotor projections and as pivoted away from said projections providing a bypass for materials carried by said projections to thereby avoid anvil and screen reduction; and

a pivotal resist member adapted to provide a resistance to said pivotal movement while permitting said pivotal movement and thus providing said bypass of materials in response to a determined releasing force generated by reduction-resistant material, wherein the resistance when the anvil and screen are in the closed position is different

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from the resistance when the anvil and screen are pivoted away from the projections, the pivotal resist member further adapted to allow the screen and anvil to reestablish the closed position.

wherein said pivotal resist member includes a latch mechanism and further including a cam member engaging a cam surface, said cam member being biased by a first biasing member, and said reduction by said screen and anvil urges said cam member against said first biasing member for retraction and release of said cam member in response to excessive reduction resistance and allows for reattaching once the material has bypassed.

4. (Previously presented) A material reduction apparatus as defined in Claim 3 wherein said cam surface is provided by a slidable member urged into a first slidable position in a first slidable direction by a second biasing member and a stop that prevents further movement in said first slidable direction, said cam member not urging said slidable member in said first slidable direction against said stop when said anvil and screen are urged away from said projections and said cam member urging said slidable member against said second biasing member for closing of said bypass.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) A materials reduction apparatus comprising:

a rotatably mounted rotor having radial projections;

an anvil and at least one screen operationally fixed in proximal relation to the projections of the rotor, said anvil and screen pivotally coupled to a shaft to allow common pivotal movement away from said radial projections; and

a compression member coupled to the shaft, the compression member adapted to allow limited linear movement of the shaft.

7. (Previously presented) A material reduction apparatus as defined in Claim 6, wherein said shaft is further coupled to a shear pin adapted to shear when a reduction

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resistant material is encountered that results in shaft movement that overcomes a predetermined amount of compression in the compression member.

8. (Previously presented) A material reduction apparatus as defined in Claim 6 further comprising a pivotal resist member adapted to provide resistance to said pivotal movement while permitting said pivotal movement in response to a determined force generated by a reduction resistant material, and further adapted to allow the anvil and screen to reestablish a closed position.

9. (Previously presented) A materials reduction apparatus comprising:
a rotatably mounted rotor having radial projections;
an anvil and at least one screen operationally fixed in proximal relation to the projections of the rotor, said anvil and screen pivotally coupled to a shaft to allow common pivotal movement away from said radial projections; and
a shear pin coupled to the shaft and adapted to shear when a reduction resistant material causes linear movement of the shaft.

10. (Previously presented) A material reduction apparatus as defined in Claim 9, wherein said shaft is further dynamically coupled to a compression member to allow limited linear movement of the shaft to allow certain reduction resistant materials to be encountered without causing the shear pin to shear.

11. (Previously presented) A material reduction apparatus as defined in Claim 9 further comprising a pivotal resist member adapted to provide resistance to said pivotal movement while permitting said pivotal movement in response to a determined force generated by a reduction resistant material, and further adapted to allow the anvil and screen to reestablish a closed position.